

# **OHR commends Canton Sarajevo authorities on Dobrinja approach**

The Office of the High Representative is pleased with the positive approach taken by the Canton Sarajevo authorities since the Arbitrator, Mr. Justice Sheridan, announced his final and binding decision on the location of the Inter Entity Boundary Line (IEBL) in the Sarajevo suburbs of Dobrinja I and IV.

Representatives of Canton Sarajevo and Serb Sarajevo are expected to meet next Monday to form working groups, which will look at all aspects concerning the implementation of the Arbitration Award. It is worth noting that the Sarajevo Canton authorities have emphasised that a cautious and methodical approach will be taken in resolving all implementation issues.

During a meeting held yesterday at the OHR, representatives of the Dobrinja Trade Association based in Serb Sarajevo were informed of plans and discussions between the local authorities on each side of the IEBL concerning property and business rights. The OHR reassured its interlocutors that property and business rights would not change with the Arbitration Award, unless they were held illegally. The representatives of the Dobrinja Trade Association are expected to meet with Canton Sarajevo authorities in the near future.

The OHR appreciates the common-sense approach taken by the Canton Sarajevo authorities. Their concern for the welfare of the residents of Dobrinja I and IV should have a positive outcome for those who live in the area and will help tackle the challenges ahead.